

## DRUNKS AND THIEVES 2017 Part 8 December 17, 2017



**By John Hoffmann**

**SHOPLIFTER OPENS MOUTH AND TWICE AND BECOMES ARMED ROBBER TWICE: FIRST CASE:** David Leslie Harris, 25, of St. Louis was shoplifting with another person at the Foot Locker store at the Taubman Outlet Mall on Wednesday June 29, 2016 at 5:34 in the afternoon.

Harris (listed as suspect #2) and another suspect were described as:

**Subject 1 was described as a black male with dreadlocks of medium build in his mid-twenties wearing a surgical mask, a white Nike brand tank top, dark colored shorts, and white/silver Nike shoes.**

**Subject 2 was described as a black male with short hair of medium build in his mid-twenties wearing a head band with a fake hair bun on top, a black with gray Nike brand tank top, and yellow and black Nike shoes on. Subject 2 was also wearing a white satchel worn across the body. He was also described as being effeminate.**

Harris had a performance down pat with one problem. When store employees became suspicious of the pair and watched them closely Harris would accuse them of being racists and demand they keep a close eye on the white customers.



Harris in 2014 mug shot

Here is where Harris made his big mistake. As he attempted to leave the store employees tried to block his way he said the following (from the police report):

**"you're going to make me shoot you over some shoes."**

This escalated the stealing of a \$120 pair of shoes to Felony ROBBERY! Once you inferred you have a deadly weapon and/or put a victim in fear you are committing a robbery.

Harris's other mistake was coming back to an area where he ha been arrested before and was known by the police. Upon reviewing the in-store video Chesterfield Police Officer Meyer immediately recognized suspect #2 as David Harris having arrested him before.

Officer Meyer put together a mug shot line up and had another officer who was not involved with the case (so no one could accuse an officer of gesturing to the suspect) show the photos to the witnesses. They all picked Harris.

**CASE 2:** On Monday August 1, 2016 around 3 o'clock Harris was back in Chesterfield. This time he was at the Saks Fifth Avenue Outlet Store at the Premium Outlet Mall. This time he went for the high dollar jeans and took an arm full of jeans valued at \$1,000. He pulled the same theater production he used at the Foot Locker in March of accusing the staff of watching him because he was black and then threatening to strike a female employee and shoot another. This is from the police report:

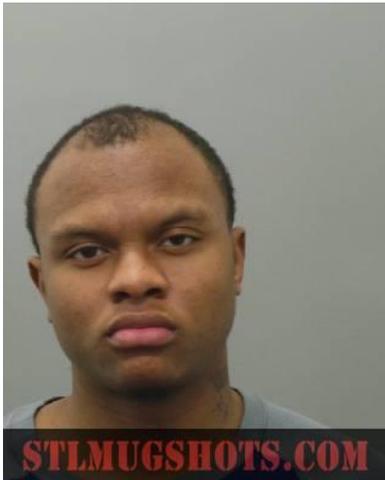
**"When the male approached the front door next to my co-worker, we both began to walk away from the suspect when he began to raise his voice about us watching him. He turned to another associate and told her that we were assuming he was stealing and began to yell saying that there were other people in the store why we were following him. Yelling saying he doesn't steal, he then told K [REDACTED] he would slap her in the face and called her a hoe. I was standing behind her the whole time and told him to lower his voice. He was making a scene that no one said he was stealing, he then told me to back up or he would shoot me in the face. I told him to chill and he started say words under his breath and turned to the doors and walked out and ran to his car."**

On August 24, 2016 the St. Louis Police arrested Harris as a fugitive from Chesterfield. The Chesterfield police detectives went to St. Louis to pick up Harris. While at the St.

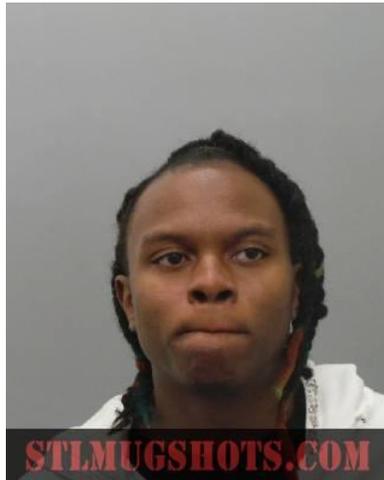
Louis Police Headquarters, they immediately interviewed Harris, who confessed to the Saks 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the Foot Locker offenses.

Harris told officers that he loved to come out to Chesterfield and also confessed to thefts at the Sunglass Hut, Ultra, Dick's Sporting Goods and Macy's. Harris also admitted to being a heroin addict. He gave the names of two accomplices and referred to one make as "his girlfriend."

He denied making threats to store employees. He told officers he was merely making suggestions as to what could happen to them if they tried to stop shoplifters.



Jan. 2016



August 2016

A number of charges against Harris were dropped as the prosecutor's office consolidated cases. Below is an attempt to find some of Harris' arrests but it is clearly not all of his arrests:

03/07/14	Tampering with a Motor Vehicle Felony Resisting Arrest 12/16/14 Pled Guilty Placed on SIS Probation 01/08/16 Probation revoked served 215 days jail	St. Louis PD
12/12/14	Stealing Ord Violation Assault Resisting Arrest Leaving the Scene of an Accident 2 counts Fail to Obey Traffic Control Device Fail to Yield to Emg Vehicle Careless and Impudent Driving All Des Peres cases are have arrest warrants issued	Des Peres DPS

08/26/15	Receiving Stolen Property (Felony Theft) 04/21/17 sentenced to 7 years prison	Creve Coeur PD
03/28/16	Robbery 2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree 04/21/17 sentenced to 10 years prison	Chesterfield PD
03/29/16	Receiving Stolen Property (Felony Theft) 04/21/17 sentenced to 7 years prison	Brentwood PD
06/29/16	Robbery 2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree Receiving Stolen Property (Stealing) 04/21/17 sentenced to 10 years prison for robbery and 7 years prison for Receiving Stolen Property	Chesterfield PD
07/03/16	Stealing city ord violation	Overland PD
07/29/16	Receiving Stolen Property (Felony Theft) 04/21/17 sentenced to 7 years prison	St. Louis CO PD

**OUTCOME:** On the Chesterfield Robbery cases Harris pled guilty and was sentenced to 10-years in the Missouri Department of Corrections. He was sentenced to 7-years in prison to be served concurrently for thefts in Creve Coeur and Brentwood. When he gets of prison there should be arrest warrants in Des Peres and Overland waiting for him on Municipal cases. (This article originally appeared in our Ex Alderman Newsletter #285 on July 10, 2017)

**LICENSE PLATE READER RESULTS IN DWI ARREST:** License plate readers consist of camera mounted on police cars and a computer system that is updated every 24-hours. If the cameras scan a license plate of a listed stolen vehicle, a vehicle wanted in connection of a crime or a vehicle associated with a person wanted by police or with an outstanding arrest warrant, an alarm will sound alerting the police officer in the car.

(When Chesterfield bought the license plate reader, I was amused that then Councilman Bruce DeGroot was worried that the officer with the reader on his car would only patrol “Black neighborhoods” causing me to ask DeGroot, “What ‘Black Neighborhoods? Where are they?’”)

On Friday December 4, 2015 at 10:09 in the morning Shawn Peters, 46, of Bridgeton was driving his black Honda Pilot on westbound Olive Blvd. at River Valley Drive approaching Chesterfield Police Officer Howe who was in the Chesterfield patrol car with the license plate reader. The alarm went off and information came on a screen that the car was associated with a person wanted with an arrest warrant from Rock Hill, MO.

Officer Howe watched Peters turn down River Bend Drive before he pulled the car over. Upon contacting Peters and despite it being 10 in the morning Officer Howe smelled booze on Peters breath, After confirming the warrant, Officer Howe returned to the car and Peters denied having anything to drink that morning or the night before. Peters then failed field sobriety tests and refused to take a field breath test.

He was arrested, taken to the police station where he again refused to take a breath test. However he agreed to be interviewed.

He stated that he did not know about what time it was or what city he was in. However he changed his story and now said he had 4-to-5 beers the night before and later changed it to six beers.

The contact with Peters was recorded on the in-car camera system.



Shawn Peters, The Morning After

Peters failed to appear in Chesterfield Municipal Court and a warrant was issued for his arrest. He was arrested April 5, 2016 by St. Charles Police and later posted a bond with the Chesterfield Court.

**OUTCOME:** On 10/05/16 Peters pled guilty to an amended charge of Careless and Impudent Driving and was fined \$225 which included court costs. Of course Peters never committed any moving violations that would constitute Careless Driving, but apparently video of Peters condition and his performance on field sobriety tests wasn't good enough for prosecutor Tim Engelmeyer. (Originally appeared on 9/4/17 newsletter #294)

**WALMART EMPLOYEES CHARGED WITH STEALING \$1,427 IN VIDEO GAMES AND CONSOLES:**

Back in February of 2017 in Newsletter 266 we wrote about how two overnight stockers and clean up men at the Chesterfield Wal Mart store had been charged with stealing at least \$1,427 in video consoles and games. We head pretty much all the facts. We were just waiting for the second suspect to be sentenced. That happened in May.

The pair, Corey Jenkins and Rene Faulk on 11/22/14 thought they were hiding Playstations out of sight next to a trash bailer and then later leaving the store. However security video captured their activities.

When contacted by Chesterfield Police Officer Paubel at the store, Jenkins stated that he hoped to get promoted to middle management. Then when confronted about stealing the Playstations he denied it. However that changed. The following is from the police report.



Corey stated he's living with his mother at this time, has 1 child, and one on the way, so money is a huge issue for him. I then asked Corey how much was the total of merchandise he had taken from the company? Corey at first stated \$12, and admitted to stealing a hat and some chips. I then went further into my Investigation, and asked Corey about the gaming consoles? He was in full denial at first, but in the end, Corey stated he stole the merchandise, and sold them to get the money, to use for his family issues. Corey then filled out the voluntary statement, stating the above, and signed the form. Corey was then gained from the Company, and released into the Custody of Chesterfield Police Department.

An interview at the police station resulted in this additional information:

During the interview, Jenkins admitted to taking a total of three (3) PlayStation 4 video game systems and a PlayStation 4 video game controller. Jenkins stated he acted alone and he had never taken any items from Walmart in the past. Jenkins stated he "needed to keep the lights on" and pay bills and sold each of the systems for \$225 each

Rene Faulk was never arrested but was issued citations for thefts at the Wal Mart store.

**OUTCOME:** On 08/16/16 Faulk pled guilty in Chesterfield Municipal Court and was fined \$200 on each of the two theft counts.

On May 12, 2017 Jenkins pled guilty to one count of Felony Receiving Stolen Property in the Circuit Court of St. Louis County. He was placed on a 5-year SIS probation term. (Originally appeared in Ex Alderman Newsletter 295 on September 18, 2017)

**CAR CLOUTERS; TWO CONVICTED AND PROSECUTION AGAINST ONE WAS**

**DROPPED:** In our Ex-Alderman Report 247 from October 17, 2016 we reported how three drug addicts who were breaking into cars in Chesterfield and Ballwin were arrested by the Ballwin Police still in possession of the stolen goods.

The stolen tools were taken during early morning hours on July 7, 2016 from 557 Stoddards Mill Drive in Chesterfield. When the Ballwin Police pulled over the car being operated by 42-year-old Elizabeth McDonald of St. Louis, Roman Mandrapa, 21, of Ballwin, ran from the car and was arrested later. Also in the car with the 18-year-old Nicholas Ferguson of Ballwin.

All three were later charged with Felony Receiving Stolen Property. The charges were later dropped against McDonald. In statements Ferguson said too high to remember exact details. He stated that Mandrapa would sell the stolen items to a pawn shop in Ballwin and he would get a cut in the form of marijuana.

Here is part of Ferguson's statement to police:

He said Roman Mandrapa was the one who took the items and was going to sell them at a pawn shop in Ballwin. I asked Ferguson what he got from this, and he said he got a cut. I asked if he meant money, and he said he usually got "weed."

Here are the trio at the time of there arrests:



Ferguson



Mandrapa



McDonald

**RECORDS:**

**FERGUSON:**

07/07/16	Felony Receiving Stolen Property	Chesterfield PD
12/12/16	Burglary & Receiving Stolen Property	Chesterfield PD
12/22/16	Possession of Stolen Property	Des Peres DPS

**MANDRAPA:**

07/14/12	Misdemeanor Stealing	St. Louis CO PD
08/14/13	Burglary 1 <sup>st</sup> Degree	St. Louis CO PD
	Theft of a Motor Vehicle	
	Misdemeanor Stealing	
07/07/16	Felony Receiving Stolen Property	Chesterfield PD

**OUTCOMES:**

**Mandrapa:** On May 25, 2017 Mandrapa pled guilty to Felony Receiving Stolen Property. He was sentenced to 7-years in prison, but was immediately placed on a 5-year SES probation term.

**Ferguson:** On 05/12/17 Ferguson pled guilty to both the Receiving Stolen Property from the tool theft and to the Burglary. He was placed on a 5-year SIS probation term. (Orig appeared in Ex Alderman Newsletter #296 on September 25, 2017)

**AND THEN THERE WAS THE CHESTERFIELD BURGLARY:** In the early morning house of December 12, 2016 the Maplewood Police were involved in a pursuit of a 2008 Lexus sedan. The car and driver got away, but not before the license plate number was obtained. The license plate check to the house of Gary and Sherri Strauss at 17291 Courtyard Mill Lane in Chesterfield. The house was sale at the time and was when we wrote this on June 27 for \$1,750,000.

The Maplewood police called the Chesterfield Police and asked them to check the house for the Lexus and a possible driver. When chesterfield officers arrived at the house they found it had been broken into and there was no Lexus on the property.

Police found the garage door was open and no cars were in the garage. The outside door to the garage had been kicked in with a muddy boot print on the door. Also the refrigerator door was standing open as were cupboards.

Video surveillence systems showed two people in hoodie sweatshirts between 1:43 and 2:40 AM. The Lexus is seen being driven away at 3:16 AM.



The House at 17291 Courtyard Mill Chesterfield



The garage

The big break in the case came from on December 30, 2016 after the St. Louis Police recovered the Lexus at 4127 Nebraska and had it towed to the St. Louis PD impound lot on Hall Street.

The car was drivable, but had a window broken out, a bullet hole in the roof and a bullet hole in the trunk and two large dents in the passenger doors.

Chesterfield police evidence technicians seized 30 items from the car, including a 7-11 cash register receipt, a Jimmy John's wrapper and a handwritten note. There were also the usual things with possible DNA, such as cigarette butts, hair brushes and combs, headphones Swisher Sweet Cigar butt (Swisher Sweets are often loaded with marijuana).

On January 3, 2017 detectives went to the 7-11 Store where the receipt was created. It was the 7-11 on Manchester in Des Peres from 12/13/16. The manager was able to pull up the video from 12/13/16 at 2:56 PM.

The video showed two black males enter the store. They were both wearing Jimmy John's uniforms. There is a Jimmy John's one block to the west of the 7-11 across from the 74,000 square foot Schnuckendorf (Schnucks) store.

One of the subjects was buying Newport cigarettes. An empty Newport pack was found in the Lexus when it was recovered shot up in St. Louis.

Detectives then went to Jimmy John's and contacted the manager, who said both persons in the video worked at his store and both were on duty. They interviewed the older of the two first and he said he was merely buying the cigarettes for a co-worker (who at the time was 17). He said he was never in the Lexus. He also said the co-worker had been talking about the burglary and stealing the car in Chesterfield several times. That co-worker was Deahvion Bishop.

Bishop originally claimed the Lexus was stolen by someone else as it was left running at a gas pump. When detectives explained that they had video from neighbors' security cameras that showed the theft was not at gas station. Bishop then admitted that he was the lookout as **Nicholas Ferguson** broke into a house and stole the car. He later admitted he was active in breaking a window and gaining entry to the house. He also said they smashed some fruit found in the kitchen.



Nicholas Ferguson



Deahvion Bishop

Bishop also admitted breaking into three other homes in the Kehrs Mill Road area prior to the home with the Lexus. He said they would check for mail in the mailbox that would indicate no one was home.

Bishop indicated they sold off the stolen Lexus a few days later. When street thugs talk about selling a stolen car they mean they sold it to someone else for a small amount of money (\$100 or \$200) of for drugs.

Bishop also admitted to being in the police chase; sort of. "Later down Manchester (sic) we saw a cop and sped on pass em. Then I went home."

Ferguson was arrested on January 8, 2017 as a Fugitive of Chesterfield by the County Police. The Chesterfield Police Station he told a different story than did Bishop. Ferguson claimed after drinking (both under age) at Hot Shots on Manchester Road, they got a ride to the Schnucks store on Kehrs Mill on December 12. They started walking down Kehrs Mill Road breaking to vacant houses along the way. Ferguson said during this time they both ingested heroin. He took four doses, two injected and two snorted.

Ferguson lied at this point, claiming that Bishop originally drove the Lexus and began to "fall out" due to the heroin. Ferguson claimed Bishop called someone to pick him up at the Schnuck's store and Ferguson drove home in Ballwin and later took a bus to his girlfriend's house. He said he then passed out and she took him to a hospital for a drug overdose.

Bishop's story included the mention of the police encounter (Maplewood Police chase) while Ferguson claimed never driving anywhere near Maplewood. Both were charged with Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft and Receiving Stolen Property.



Two days before pleading guilty to the tool thefts and the Chesterfield home burglary, Ferguson who is apparently a real brainiac, posted the above photo on his facebook page.

**OUTCOME: Ferguson:** On May 12, 2017 Ferguson pled guilty to the Felony Receiving Stolen Property from the tool theft and Burglary and Receiving Stolen Property from the Chesterfield burglary. Circuit Court Judge Joe Druker apparently didn't look at Ferguson's facebook post and felt he was an excellent candidate for probation. He was sentenced to a 5-year SIS No-Fine, NO-Jail, NO-Record if completed successfully. My money is on one of two things. Ferguson doesn't complete his probation and is sentenced for the crimes or he doesn't complete his probation because he overdoses and dies or he is shot as he follows his dream into the gangster-drug culture.

**Bishop:** He pled guilty on March 24, 2017 before Judge Druker. Although a drug user Bishop had no prior record like Ferguson. The other differences were that he is Black and Ferguson is White, Ferguson lives in West County and Bishop lives in North St. Louis. Ferguson had a private defense attorney and Bishop had a public defender. He got the same 5-year-SIS probation that Ferguson got but the difference is he also got 90 day in the County Jail as Shock Time. Ferguson, the white guy with a prior felony arrest got no jail time.



Bishop and Ferguson giving us the finger on Bishop's Facebook.

The one other thing they have in common is the **Bishop is VERY STUPID**. He has an active facebook site with him breaking the law in videos.

He actually has a video after his jail time of him singing along with an obscene rap song and smoking marijuana. He also has a video before the arrest with him and others in a car, smoking marijuana. The worst one for me was not any of the numerous posts using the "N-word" but was the one that said, "Fuck Christmas."

Maybe if you are on probation you shouldn't post videos of you breaking the law and acting like an urban gangster.

Despite a massive clever national advertising campaign by Jimmy John's after seeing these two felons and home burglars giving me the finger in a photo taken at Jimmy John's I suddenly don't want to buy anything there again. (Orig appeared in Ex Alderman Newsletter #296 on September 25, 2017.)

**PALLET THEIF FROM COLLINSVILLE GETS 10 DAYS JAIL:** Many people are not aware of thefts that occur regularly at retail establishments. They are grease thefts from restaurants and shipping pallet thefts from retail stores. Grease is recycled and sold by the restaurant to companies that come usually in the middle of the night and drain tanks of the grease. The same goes for wooden shipping pallets that are usually stored in the rear of businesses.

In this case Kevin George, 33, of Collinsville, Illinois was caught stealing shipping pallets behind the PetSmart store in the Chesterfield Valley on December 4, 2015 at 12:46 on a Friday afternoon.



Kevin George

Committing a crime in the 12 o'clock hour when a store is open is perhaps not a great idea. A manager of the THF properties, that owns the shopping center, saw the theft and called in a theft in progress.

This is from the police report:

I arrived on scene as Officer Ovca made contact with the male behind the PetSmart. The black truck is described as a black Chevrolet pickup with MSL: [REDACTED]/16 and was loaded with pallets in the bed. Two groups of pallets were tied down, but 17 pallets were not yet tied down and were closer to the back of the truck. The male was identified as Kevin George, and he stated that he loaded the pallets up but was going to ask the manager afterwards. I asked if he had a contract to take pallets, and he stated no. I asked if he had any contracts with any of the numerous businesses in this area and he stated no.

A search of George's pickup truck revealed an open bottle of vodka. George had been drinking but did not appear to be intoxicated.

The pallets are sold back to recyclers for \$5 a pallet and George had just taken 17 pallets from PetSmart. The crime, was a theft of \$85. But he clearly had been stealing pallets from other businesses also.

There was also an outstanding warrant from a municipal court for George's arrest.

He was arrested for Theft and an Open Container in a Vehicle. He was issued citations and released to the other police agency. George then did not show up at Chesterfield Municipal Court and a warrant was issued for his arrest. The warrant was executed on August 15, 2016 when George was arrested in St. Charles.

**OUTCOME:** On March 21, 2017 George pled guilty to Stealing in Chesterfield Municipal Court, was sentenced to 10 days in jail and was immediately released given time served in jail waiting for court. (This originally appeared in Ex Alderman Newsletter 297 on October 2, 2017)

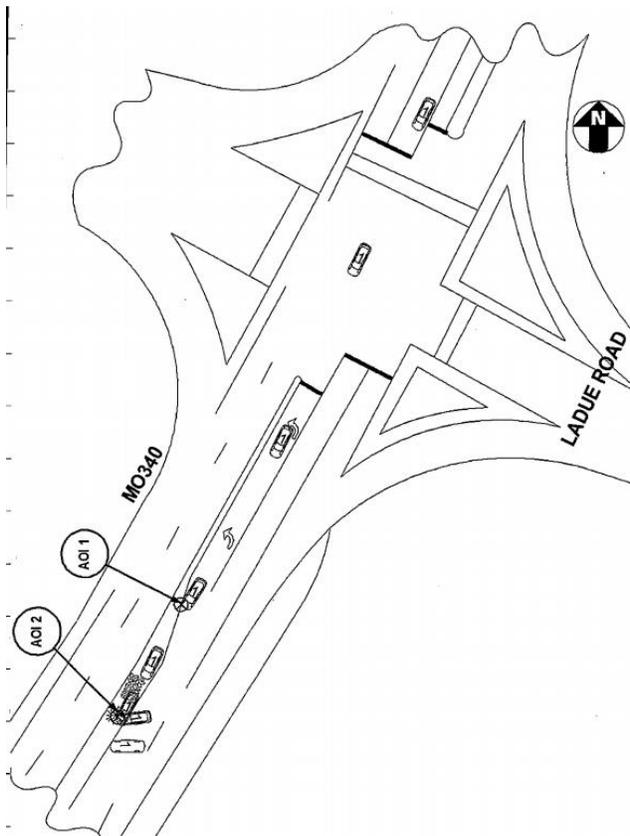
**DRUNK DRIVER FROM EUREKA TOTALS HER RAV-4 IN ONE CAR ACCIDENT:** Chesterfield Police officers and Monarch Fire District paramedics responded to a one vehicle auto accident on Friday night February 5, 2016 at the intersection of Olive Blvd, and Ladue Road.

On arrival of the police and paramedic/firefighters they found a 2013 Toyota Rav4 overturned with the driver still behind the wheel. Firefighters had to extricate the driver, June Goodson, 59, of Eureka. Goodson is a personal trainer in the West County area.



Both police officers and paramedics reported smelling booze on Goodson's breath. She showed other signs of intoxicated also.

The accident investigation revealed that Goodson was driving west on Olive Blvd when he crossed over into the eastbound lanes and struck the intersection median and overturned, totaling the vehicle and trapping Goodson.



At the hospital Goodson stated that she did not remember what happened.

She agreed to an interview in which she stated that she thought she was in Eureka, despite crashing her car in Chesterfield and being at Mercy Medical Center in Creve Coeur (there are no hospitals in Eureka.)

Chesterfield Officer Garner reported that Goodson's eyes were bloodshot, her speech was slurred the smell of booze on her breath was strong and she was having mood swings from being indifferent to crying.

Goodson also stated that she had just one 2-oz glass of wine. She agreed to a blood test for BAC.

That test came back five weeks later and showed Goodson BAC level to be .226% or almost three times the legal limit, which would have been a huge glass of wine.

**OUTCOME:** Goodson's defense attorney moved the case to the Associate Circuit Court in Clayton, but it was still prosecuted by Chesterfield Prosecutor Tim Engelmeyer. On May 25, 2017 Goodson pled guilty to DWI and was sentenced to a NO-Points, NO-Fine, NO-Permanent Record 2-year SIS probation term. Despite being three times over the legal limit, driving on the wrong side of the road at a major Chesterfield intersection, crashing and totaling her SUV, Goodson left court with no points on her driving record. (This originally appeared in Newsletter #298 on October 9, 2017.)

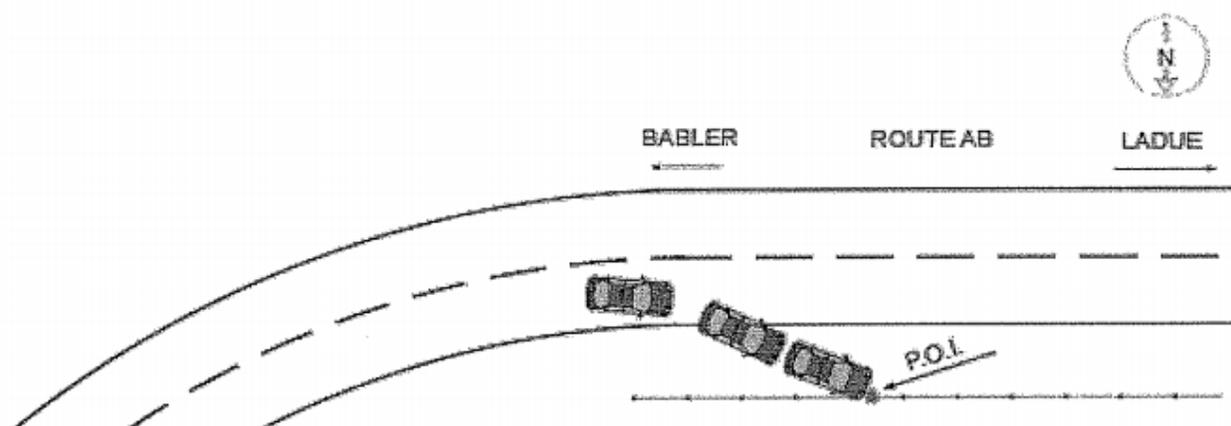
**ON CHRISTMAS NIGHT DRUNK CHESTERFIELD MAN DRIVES OFF ROAD AND KNOCKS DOWN 70-FEET OF FENCE AT HUNTER'S FARM:** Police work on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day can be slow but interrupted with calls involving excessive use of alcohol. Normally it involves family disturbances centered around an intoxicated family member who started drinking before noon. The other involves DWI cases, going from one party to another but taking plenty of time to drink at every party.

I have answered calls involving both. I worked more Christmas Eves and Christmas days than many because I did not have any children and always volunteered to take shifts of officers who needed to be home with their kids. I had a call with paramedics trying and revive a man who had fallen off a bar stool at a private home only to have the man come to and start assaulting the medics. Another involved a drunk 6-foot tall woman who was holding an iron by the electric cord swinging it above her head trying to hit a family member that had pissed her off.

The most picture perfect arrest was that of a drug dealer for DWI at 4 o'clock on Christmas morning as a snow had started to fall.

On Christmas night 2016 Town and Country Officer McPherson got such a call 4-hours and 43-minutes into his overnight 6-to-6 shift. This one started as a one-car accident on Ladue Road.

Steve R. Hasty, 61, of 1231 Finger Lake Court in Chesterfield had driven his 1993 Acura (almost an antique) off the road on Ladue Road west of Babler Road into a wooden fence along the property of Hunter Farms, destroying 70-feet of the fence.



This was Officer McPherson's lucky night, because what should be guy with bloodshot eyes walking around but Steve Hasty still behind the wheel of the running car. This made is easy to prove he was operating a car.

Officer McPherson smelled a strong odor of booze on Hasty's breath and listened as Hasty spoke with slurred speech. Once out of the car Hasty was staggering.

Hasty failed several field sobriety tests and a field breath test was over the legal limit. Hasty was arrested and taken to the Town and Country Police station.



Steven Hasty

In an interview he stated he had been drinking rum from 4 in the afternoon to 8. He agreed to take an official breath test. The results of the test were .133%.

**OUTCOME:** This case stayed out of municipal court and away from the Town and Country Non-Prosecutor Ed Sluys, who will make a deal on any DWI case as long as a local lawyer has been hired and was filed as a misdemeanor case in the Circuit Court as Hasty had a prior DWI.

On June 19, 2017 Hasty pled guilty before Judge Mary Ott. He was sentenced to six months in jail, but the jail time was immediately stayed and Hasty was immediately placed on a 2-year SES probation term. This means the DWI conviction record will stay on his driving record. (Originally appeared in Newsletter #306 on Dec. 4, 2017)

**KIRKWOOD DRUNK DRIVER REFUSES TO TAKE BREATH TEST, GETS A WRITTEN WARNING FOR LANE WEAVING AND A NO-FINE, NO-RECORD PROBATION FOR DWI:** I always find it amazing how municipal prosecutors and judges will reward drivers who refused to take a breath test by giving them a great deal. That was the case with Amy Frillman, 37, of Kirkwood.

On December 22, 2016 at 11:12 PM Town and Country Officer Smith was eastbound on I-64 from Maryville Center when he observed the driver of a white 2012 Honda Pilot weaving from lane to lane.

Smith stopped the Honda on I-64 at Mason Road. He contacted the driver, obtained her license and went back to his police car to write up a warning for lane weaving. When he returned to the Honda he could detect the heavy odor of booze on Frillman's breath and now noticed that her speech was slurred and her eyes were bloodshot.

She failed a number of field sobriety tests and refused to take a field breath test. She was arrested for DWI and transported to the police station. There she refused to answer any questions if she had anything to drink and refused to take an official breath test,

She was released to a sober person who turned out to be her brother.

**OUTCOME:** Despite refusing to take a breath test, Frillman's attorney Matthew Fry had no problem getting Town and Country Judge Waldemer and prosecutor Ed Sluys to go along with a SIS, No-Permanent Record, No-Fine and No-Points, probation term. Frillman left the courthouse without much of a consequence for her actions. (Orig appeared in Ex-Alderman Newsletter 307 on December 11, 2017}



Amy Frillman

Does she look drunk to you?

**23-YEAR-OLD SON OF A LAWYER ARRESTED FOR DRUNK DRIVING ON CHRISTMAS EVE:** Vincent C. Jones, 23, of unincorporated West County was observed by Town and Country Officer Becker southbound on I-270 approaching Manchester Road. Jones was driving his red Chevrolet Cruze at a high rate of speed and weaving from lane to lane.

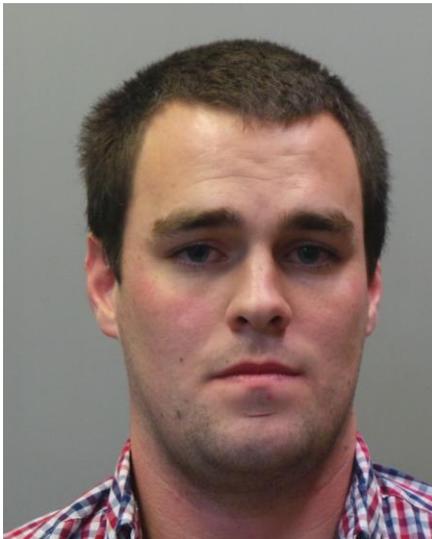
Officer Becker clocked Jones doing 86 MPH or 26 MPH over the limit at 2:44 AM on Christmas Eve 2016. He stopped him at Dougherty Ferry Road and found him to be drunk. His breath reeked of booze, his eyes were glassy and bloodshot, his speech was slurred and once out of the car he was staggering and stumbling while he tried to walk. He failed a number of field sobriety tests, including reciting the alphabet from D-to-L and A-to-Z. he refused to take a field breath test.

He was arrested for DWI, Speeding and Improper lane Use.

At the police station before he refused to take an official breath test he asked to call his lawyer. His lawyer happened to be his father. He never asked Dad if he should take a breath test. He merely asked him to pick him up at the police station.

He refused to take the breath test and became uncooperative during the booking procedure.

All the charges were filed in the St. Louis County Associate Circuit Court since two of the violations were observed by Officer Becker outside of Town and Country.



**OUTCOME:** Jones was not represented by his father before Associate Circuit Judge Mary Ott. He was represented by Carl Civella (a name very familiar with anyone who

ever lived in Kansas City). On May 16, 2017 he pled guilty to DWI and was placed on a SIS No-Points, No-Fine and No Permanent Record probation for 2 years. He also pled guilty to Improper Lane Use and was fined \$50 and 2-points would go against his driver's license. For speeding 26 MPH over the limit while drunk, that charge was reduced to Illegal Parking. Jones pled guilty to that non-traffic and non-criminal offense and was fined \$270. (Orig appeared in Ex Alderman Newsletter 307 on 12/11/17)